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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
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Serial No. : 09/974,511
Applicant(s): Masahiro KAWAKAMI et al.
Filed : October 10, 2001
For : SMELTING REDUCTION METHOD
Art Unit : 1742
Examiner : Melvyn J. Andrews
Docket No. : 00447CD/HG
Confirmation
No. : 8922
Customer No.: 01933

Express Mail Mailing Label
No.: EV 338 328 160 US
Date of Deposit: August 5, 2003

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Laraine Dobies

Laraine Dobies

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

S I R :

Applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time for the timely filing of the papers filed concurrently herewith.

Extended time expires August 6, 2003.

A check for \$410 is attached to cover the Patent Office fee. If any further fees are required, authorization is given to charge same against Account No. 06-1378.

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman
& Chick, P.C.
767 Third Ave., 25th floor
New York, NY 10017-2023
Telephone: (212) 319-4900
Facsimile: (212) 319-5101
RSB/lpv

Respectfully submitted,

Richard S. Barth

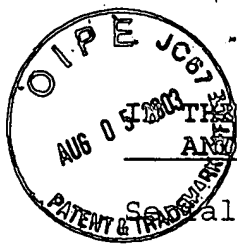
RICHARD S. BARTH
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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN
& CHICK, P.C.
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
767 THIRD AVENUE, 25TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10017-2023

92068

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August 5, 2003 DATE

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& CHICK, P.C.

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767 THIRD AVE., 25TH FLOOR
New York, NY 10017-2023
Telephone: (212) 319-4900
Facsimile: (212) 319-5101
RSB/lpv

Enc.: Check for \$410

Richard S. Barth
RICHARD S. BARTH
Reg. No. 28,180

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